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Democrat

ADMINISTRATIVE FILE
Globe Democrat
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July 18, 1958

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Mr. Richard Amberg, Publisher
Globe Democrat
14th Blvd. & Franklin Ave.
St. Louis 1, Missouri

Dear Dick:

I have your letter of July 16th dealing with the manner in which your people headlined O'Brien's story on Hoffa and myself.

I am happy to learn that this was a "fouled up", and not a deliberate action designed to offset the good publicity of O'Brien's story.

Needless to say Dick, I appreciate your attitude and generosity in writing to me clarifying the situation. It is just another one of the many ways in which you have demonstrated your fine friendship towards me. Thanks a million.

Sincerely yours,

H. J. Olthoff
Executive Assistant to the
General President

HJO/yb

St. Louis Globe-Democrat

127 BLVD. & FRANKLIN AVE.

ST. LOUIS 1, MO.

RICHARD H. AMBERG
PUBLISHER

July 16, 1958

Dear Harold:

I have just returned today from four days fishing and to my dismay I found the story of you and Jimmy Hoffa opposite to what I think is an inexcusably bad editorial and cartoon.

If I had been in town this certainly would not have happened. For your private information, I am sending you a copy of my memorandum of today to LaCoss and Pierson.

I want you to know that The Globe-Democrat's attitude toward your union and especially toward you is reflected in Ed O'Brien's story, and I am sincerely sorry about the inexcusably bad timing. I do not think there will be a repetition of this kind so far as the Teamsters are concerned, or anyone else for that matter.

I am very sorry about this but it certainly wasn't planned that way.

Please let me know when you are in town and I will buy you a couple of drinks so we can both try to forget. I'm pretty ashamed of The Globe-Democrat.

Sincerely,

Orch

Mr. Harold J. Gibbons
25 Louisiana Ave. N.W.
Washington 1, D.C.

July 16, 1958

Memo to: Mr. LeCese
Mr. Pierson

From: Richard H. Aberg

I am deeply disappointed in the considerable lack of coordination between the editorial page and the rest of the paper in our issue of July 13.

On the editorial page, we have a very vicious cartoon and editorial, while on the right hand page we explain in considerable detail the plans of the Teamsters' Union to clean house.

It seems important to me for the right hand to know what the left hand is doing. I think the editorial and cartoon were quite out of character with our editorial policy, which has been to give Hoffa and Gibbons a chance to put their house in order. We have had several editorials, which I have written myself, on what I think is forward looking policies in the public's interest by that union.

In any event, I wish you both would establish considerably better liaison, with Mr. Pierson sitting in or at least being briefed on editorials. In this way if any divergencies arise they can be discussed and adjusted, or at least I will have a chance to express my views so the policy of the paper will be consistent.

ADMINISTRATIVE FILE

Globe Democrat

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July 8, 1958

C
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Mr. Richard Amberg, Publisher
Globe Democrat
12th & Delmar
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Dick:

Attached is the New York Times editorial I mentioned
to you Sunday.

I enjoyed our visit. Please give my regards to your wife.

Thanks for alerting O'Brien. I have a tentative meeting
with him on Wednesday morning.

Sincerely yours,

H. J. Gibbons,
Executive Assistant to the
General President

HJG/yn
Enc.

Press Intelligence, Inc.
WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

ST. LOUIS (Mo.)
GLOBE-DEMOCRAT

Circ.: m. 332,823
S. 373,939

Front Edit Other
Page Page Page

Date: APR 24 1960

Hoffa Says Union Has \$600 Million

Teamsters Are
Probably Richest
Labor Group

By EDWARD W. O'BRIEN

Chief of The Globe-Democrat
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON. — The Teamsters Union and its affiliates have total holdings of \$600,000,000, according to James R. Hoffa, union president.

This sum probably makes the Teamsters by far the richest union in the world. The figure is several times larger than the holdings previously attributed to the Teamsters.

Mr. Hoffa made the estimate in an interview with a Globe-Democrat reporter. The total includes not only the international union's assets but also those of a vast number of area conferences, city joint councils, locals and other subdivisions of the union.

Also included, to the extent of over \$100,000,000, are the various pension and welfare funds covering Teamster members.

The union's treasuries are under its sole control. The pension and welfare funds are generally controlled by boards of trustees representing the union and employers.

Comparison with other big unions is not possible because overall figures for the other unions are not available. However, as a rough measuring stick, here is how the Teamsters \$600,000,000 compares with the net assets of other big international treasuries, as reported to the Labor Department.

United Mine Workers, often thought of as the richest union, \$110,115,000; United Automobile Workers, \$30,373,000; Operating Engineers, \$19,305,000, and Marine Engineers Union, \$22,000,000.

INVESTMENTS

The Teamster funds are invested in a variety of ways—on some holdings and in real estate, mortgages, stocks and bonds, and cash. The holdings include ownership of a bank in Miami and a loan to the Catholic Bishop of Miami.

It was one of Mr. Hoffa's financial maneuvers with cash belonging to his home local in Detroit that got him in his present predicament with the union's court-appointed monitors. Some years ago, he deposited \$500,000 of Local 299 in a Florida bank on an interest-free basis.

The McClellan Committee dug up the transaction and claimed he did it in order to obtain financing from the bank for a Florida real estate development known as Sun Valley. The committee, and now the monitors, charged that Mr. Hoffa stood in profit personally on the whole

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Globe Democrat

affair through options he held on Sun Valley stock.

Mr. Hoffa denied he did anything wrong. The money is still on deposit to the credit of the local, he says, and the local has not lost a cent.

Nonetheless, the monitors are demanding Mr. Hoffa's dismissal as international president on the grounds he violated his trust by his alleged mishandling of the \$500,000.

On Wednesday, Federal Judge F. Dickinson Letts is scheduled to open a hearing here on the monitors' demand for Mr. Hoffa's ouster.

In his 30 years as a Teamster leader, Mr. Hoffa's life has been full of crises. This one could be the biggest. It could result in Mr. Hoffa's removal, appointment of a receiver for the entire union, and far-reaching changes in the union hierarchy.

In The Globe-Democrat interview, Mr. Hoffa insisted he is not particularly concerned.

"I did nothing wrong. I can sleep at night," he said.

"When you're 67 years old and you're in good health, what is there to worry about? I don't let these things bother me. After what I've seen since I started out as a kid of 17, this is nothing.

"Nobody's going to destroy this union. We're in good shape. If there was to be a union convention tomorrow, I'll beat you every man on the executive board would be re-elected by acclamation.

"We're in close touch with our members. We're not like some of these union presidents. Every Friday night, Harold (vice president Harold J. Gibbons of St. Louis) and I head out of town. He goes one way and I go another. Saturday and Sunday we have meetings with our people all around the country. Monday morning, we're back here in Washington.

"We know how our people feel. They're behind us on this thing. We'll come out okay."